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Department of  
Agriculture

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Public Affairs

# **Selected Speeches and News Releases**

**June 7 - June 14, 1990**

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# News Releases

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## BALANCING MULTIPLE USE KEY TO NEW 5-YEAR PLAN FOR U.S. FOREST AND RANGE LAND

WASHINGTON, June 7—Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's latest five-year strategic plan for national forest and range land programs will achieve a better balance among multiple uses of resources while delivering those programs with greater environmental sensitivity.

The Resources Planning Act (RPA) 1990 Recommended Program, released today, will guide future resource management programs of USDA's Forest Service.

"This is a bold plan for the conservation and wise use of our natural resources," Yeutter said. "The Forest Service continues to be committed to managing land for many uses, but the 1990 RPA plan strikes a better balance among multiple uses. The plan also adds impetus to Forest Service's continuing efforts to protect the environmental quality of these public lands."

Yeutter said the new emphasis on multiple-use management of public lands must balance the demands for recreation, timber, wildlife habitat, and other uses.

"We are looking at multiple-use management from a new perspective," Yeutter said. "The plan establishes four high-priority themes that are central to the proposed Forest Service program—enhancing recreation, wildlife, and fisheries resources; ensuring that commodity production is environmentally acceptable; improving scientific knowledge about natural resources; and expanding Forest Service responses to global resource issues."

The Forest Service will take several specific steps to meet the objectives of these four themes. Facilities will be improved to increase recreational access to public lands, including access by the elderly and physically handicapped. Wildlife and fisheries management will be strengthened, especially programs related to habitat improvement in support of threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Forest Service scientists will focus research on learning more about biological diversity, tropical forestry, sensitive species, and global change. And the agency



will strengthen ties with other nations to pool efforts and knowledge related to resource conservation and management.

Yeutter said that production and harvesting of commodities and raw materials on forest system and range lands will be managed in such a way as to protect environmental quality and sustain productivity. Where timber and mineral production and livestock grazing cannot be accomplished in an environmentally acceptable manner, production levels will be reduced. "The total timber harvest from national forests is likely to be relatively stable compared to past levels, with some downward adjustment for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species habitat and other objectives," he said.

"This is an ambitious program and we are committed to maintaining a balance between the needs of people and the needs of the land," Yeutter said. "Working with the public, we can assure a continuous supply of natural resources and a healthy environment for future generations."

Kelly Shipp (202) 447-4623

Judy Kissinger (202) 447-2494

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## **VIRGINIA MEAT-PROCESSING FIRM ORDERED TO COMPLY WITH MEAT LAWS**

WASHINGTON, June 7—The U.S. Department of Agriculture will withdraw its inspection services from A.L. Duck, Jr., Inc., of Zuni, Va., for one year, if the meat processing firm commits any further violations of federal, state or local meat inspection laws, or otherwise fails to meet any of the other provisions of a recent administrative law consent decision and order.

In September 1989, William Bowman, the firm's supervisor, and his wife, Brenda Bowman, owner of the firm, were both convicted on six misdemeanor counts each for violating federal inspection laws.

According to Dr. Lester M. Crawford, administrator of USDA's Food Safety Inspection Service, a USDA decision to withdraw inspection services from the company will be held in abeyance as long as the firm abides by the terms of a May 9 consent decision and order.

Under the order, William Bowman must divest himself of financial and operational obligations with the firm for ten years. The firm cannot violate the federal Meat Inspection Act or any state or local statutes involving preparing, selling, transporting, or distributing adulterated or misbranded meat products. Nor can it hire individuals convicted of a felony or more than one misdemeanor for violating the act.

The firm also must initiate a control program to prevent the manufacture or storage of adulterated or misbranded products. Any adulterated products must be recalled and the on-site inspector must be notified immediately if a potential adulteration or misbranding problem is identified. The firm must also receive prior approval from FSIS before producing products outside regular hours of operation. In addition, the product label must be approved by FSIS before a product can be produced.

Withdrawal of inspection services effectively closes a meat or poultry processing plant because a plant cannot operate and sell its products in interstate commerce without federal inspection.

FSIS and its 9,000 employees are dedicated to ensuring that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome and accurately labeled.

Jim Greene (202) 382-0314

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## **USDA ANNOUNCES SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR WEATHER-DAMAGED CROPLAND**

WASHINGTON, June 7—Producers who have established a contract to participate in a 1990 price support and production adjustment program for a program crop and who are prevented from planting the crop because of flood or related weather conditions, will be allowed to withdraw from the contract without the assessment of liquidated damages, John Stevenson, acting executive vice president of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation, announced today. These producers will also be able to receive prevented planting credit for the program crop.

Stevenson said today's action was taken to assist producers in areas of the country where cropland sustained severe damage due to recent flooding.



“Today’s action provides producers who withdraw from their contracts with the option of receiving enough prevented planting credit to protect their entire crop acreage base,” Stevenson said.

Program crop acreage approved for prevented planting credit may be planted to a replacement crop on an acreage not to exceed the crop acreage base. A replacement, or ‘ghost’ crop, is planted on land after a previous program crop failed or was prevented from being planted.

Producers should contact their county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office for further information.

Bruce Merkle (202) 447-8206

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## **PENNSYLVANIA MEAT FIRM ORDERED TO COMPLY WITH MEAT LAWS**

WASHINGTON, June 7—The U.S. Department of Agriculture official said today that USDA will withdraw import inspection services from Jack Greenberg, Inc., of Philadelphia, Pa., for two years, if the firm commits any further violations of federal or state meat inspection statutes or fails to meet any of the other provisions of an administrative law order and consent decision.

On June 7, 1989, the meat wholesaler was convicted in federal court on three misdemeanor counts of selling putrid and decomposed canned hams which were unfit for human consumption.

According to Dr. Lester M. Crawford, administrator of USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service, a USDA decision to withdraw inspection services from Greenberg will be held in abeyance as long as the company continues to meet all provisions of a May 22 consent decision and administrative law order.

Under the order, the firm cannot violate the federal Meat Inspection Act or any state or local statutes involving preparing, selling, transporting or distributing adulterated or misbranded meat products. Nor can the firm hire individuals convicted of a misdemeanor or felony for violating the act.

The order also requires the firm to initiate a program to review all imported products for adulteration and misbranding. The program must include procedures for destroying adulterated products and holding misbranded products for final disposition by FSIS. It must also include



procedures for the immediate recall of products that reach consumer channels.

The firm must also develop procedures to receive prior approval from an FSIS inspector before handling adulterated or misbranded products. Import inspection services will be withdrawn for two years if any of the provisions are violated within the next four years.

Withdrawal of FSIS import inspection services effectively precludes a plant from directly receiving meat products from foreign countries for interstate commerce.

FSIS and its 9,000 employees are dedicated to ensuring that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome and accurately labeled.

Jim Greene (202) 382-0314

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## **USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET PRICE FOR UPLAND COTTON**

Washington, June 7—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced the prevailing world market price, adjusted to U.S. quality and location (adjusted world price), for Strict Low Middling (SLM) 1-1/16 inch (micronaire 3.5-4.9) upland cotton (base quality) and the coarse count adjustment in effect from 12:01 a.m. Friday, June 8, through midnight Thursday, June 14.

Since the adjusted world price (AWP) is above the 1988 and 1989 crop base quality loan rates of 51.80 and 50.00 cents per pound, respectively, the loan repayment rates for the 1988 and 1989 crops of upland cotton during this period are equal to the respective loan rates for the specific quality and location.

The AWP will continue to be used to determine the value of upland cotton that is obtained in exchange for commodity certificates. Because the AWP in effect is above the established loan rate, loan deficiency payments are not available for 1989-crop upland cotton sold during this period.

The six-week transition period from using current shipment prices to using forward shipment prices in the Northern Europe price component of the AWP calculation is complete. However, because both current shipment prices and forward shipment prices for "coarse count" cotton C.I.F. northern Europe are not yet available, the Northern Europe coarse

count price this week will equal the 5-day average of the 3 lowest-priced current shipment prices for “coarse count” cotton C.I.F. northern Europe for the preceding Friday through Thursday. The six-week transition period for the Northern Europe coarse count price component of the AWP will begin whenever both the Northern Europe coarse count current price and the Northern Europe coarse count forward price become available.

In calculating the adjustment to average U.S. spot market location, Thursday’s current shipment prices for U.S. Memphis territory and the California/Arizona territory as quoted for Middling 1-3/32 inch cotton C.I.F. northern Europe were used.

Based on data for the week ending June 7, the AWP for upland cotton and the coarse count adjustment are determined as follows:

Adjusted World Price	
Northern Europe Price .....	79.49
Adjustments:	
Average U.S. spot market location .....	13.37
SLM 1-1/16 inch cotton .....	2.20
Average U.S. location .....	0.39
Sum of Adjustments .....	<u>-15.96</u>
ADJUSTED WORLD PRICE .....	63.53 cents/lb.
Coarse Count Adjustment	
Northern Europe Price .....	79.49
Northern Europe Coarse Count Price .....	<u>-83.23</u>
	3.74
Adjustment to SLM 1-inch cotton .....	<u>-4.75</u>
	-8.49
COARSE COUNT ADJUSTMENT .....	0 cents/lb.

The next AWP and coarse count adjustment announcement will be made on Thursday, June 14.

Charles Cunningham (202) 447-7954

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## **PRIVATE EXPORTERS REPORT SALES ACTIVITY FOR SAUDI ARABIA AND UNKNOWN**

WASHINGTON, June 7—Private exporters today reported to the U.S. Department of Agriculture the following activity:

—Export sales of 100,000 metric tons of barley for delivery to Saudi Arabia during the 1990-91 marketing year; and

—Purchases from foreign sellers of 100,000 tons of corn for delivery to unknown destinations during 1989-90. A purchase from a foreign seller is a transaction in which a U. S. exporter contracts to buy U. S. produced commodities from a foreign firm.

The marketing year for barley began June 1 and for corn began Sept. 1.

USDA issues both daily and weekly export sales reports to the public. Exporters are required to report to USDA export sales of 100,000 metric tons or more of one commodity, made in one day, to one destination by 3:00 PM eastern time on the next business day following the sale. Export sales of less than these quantities must be reported to USDA on a weekly basis.

Thomas B. McDonald (202) 447-3273

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## **USDA ANNOUNCES NPIP MEETING**

WASHINGTON, June 8—The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced the general conference committee of the National Poultry Improvement Plan will meet June 25-28 in Las Vegas, Nev.

“Several issues for improving the U.S. poultry industry will be discussed,” said James W. Glosser, administrator of USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. “An important topic to consider will be a new U.S. Salmonella enteritidis program for egg-layer chicken breeding flocks.”

The NPIP is a federal-state-industry voluntary program established to improve poultry breeding stock and hatchery products and to control certain poultry diseases by identifying flocks, hatcheries and dealers that meet disease control standards.

Other issues on the agenda include test requirements of game bird breeding flocks, the U.S. sanitation monitored program, isolation and



testing of new stock from farms not previously participating in the NPIP, state recognition in controlling mycoplasma diseases, and guidelines and procedures for performing diagnostic culturing and serologic tests.

Delegates from the 47 states cooperating in the NPIP will attend the conference to consider whether changes in the program are needed as a result of changes in the poultry industry. These delegates represent state officials and members of the poultry industry.

The meeting is open to the public and will be held 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Alexis Park Resort Hotel. Meeting hours on the last day will be 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. An official notice of the meeting will be published in the June 11 Federal Register.

Those interested in commenting on agenda items or other aspects of the NPIP may send written comments to Irvin L. Peterson, Senior Coordinator, NPIP, APHIS, VS, USDA, Rm. 771, Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782. Written comments also will be accepted at the meeting. Comments should refer to docket no. 90-086.

Written comments may be inspected in Room 771 of the Federal Building between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Natalie Bosecker (301) 436-4898

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## **GEORGIA VOTES SUPPORT OF BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION, ALABAMA TO REVOTE**

WASHINGTON, June 8—By agreeing to pay higher per-acre assessments, cotton growers in 81 counties of Georgia recently voted to continue the Southeast Boll Weevil Eradication Program. In Alabama, where a similar referendum recently failed by a slim margin, growers will vote again later this month.

“With the endorsement of the Georgia growers, boll weevil eradication will begin its third season in that state,” said James W. Glosser, administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

With 67 percent of the cotton farmers voting, 1,171 voted to continue participation, 335 were against. The 78-percent margin exceeded the two-thirds majority required by state law to keep Georgia growers in the program.

The Southeastern Boll Weevil Eradication Program is a federal-state-industry cooperative effort. It began its present phase in Georgia, Alabama and Florida in the fall of 1987 after successfully eradicating boll weevils from Virginia, North Carolina and most of South Carolina. A similar program is in place in Arizona.

“Cotton farmers pay 70 percent of program costs, and the growers in each state vote in a referendum to decide if they want to participate,” said Glosser. “By approving the assessment increase from \$25 to \$35, Georgia has shown a strong commitment to the program.” The per-acre assessment is scheduled to drop to \$20 in 1991-1994.

In Alabama, the Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation met recently and scheduled a revote on the 1990 referendum. Voting will take place at local offices of USDA’s Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service during the week of June 8-15. The referendum will specify on the ballot the amount of assessment for each year and specifically authorize continuing the program after 1990. The foundation will announce the results of the revote June 21.

Enabling legislation recently passed in Florida authorizing a similar referendum in that state. The proposed voting dates are June 15-29, and the tentative date set to count the votes is July 6.

The boll weevil is the most destructive pest of U.S. cotton and has caused \$12 billion damage to the industry since it arrived in the United States from Mexico in 1892. More pesticide is used controlling boll weevil than any other insect pest in U.S. agriculture. Since the boll weevil has been eliminated from Virginia, North Carolina and most of South Carolina, pesticide use on cotton in those areas has dropped 77 percent.

Carrie Lawrence (301) 436-7280

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## YEUTTER APPOINTS FLUE-CURED TOBACCO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, June 8—Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter today named 39 members and their alternates to the Flue-Cured Tobacco Advisory Committee.

The Flue-Cured Tobacco Advisory Committee was officially established in 1974 to make recommendations to the secretary of agriculture on the equitable assignment of tobacco inspectors to all designated markets for flue-cured tobacco. Under the Tobacco Inspection Act, tobacco must be officially inspected in order to be auctioned at any designated market.

The Flue-Cured Tobacco Advisory Committee is authorized under the Federal Advisory Committee Act and reports to the Director, Tobacco Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Committee members represent flue-cured tobacco producers, warehousemen and buyers.

Producer members and their alternates are: Trudy B. Early, Gibsonville, N.C., and alternate David P. Matthews, Kernersville, N.C.; Gene B. Lanier, Burgaw, N.C., and alternate Davis N. Brinson, Kenansville, N.C.; Edward D. Bissette, Spring Hope, N.C., and alternate Warner E. Walston, Elm City, N.C.; Sidney G. Tew Sr., Roseboro, N.C., and alternate Gene F. Sears, Apex, N.C.; Leland McK. Simmons, Newport, N.C., and alternate Jimmie M. Parrish, Edenton, N.C.; Donald W. Stilley, Trenton, N.C., and alternate Stanley Carr, Clinton, N.C.;

Jay F. Bryant, Boonville, N.C., and alternate Sidney L. Russell, Burlington, N.C.; Harold R. Wright, Bladenboro, N.C., and alternate Bennie R. Gupton, Louisburg, N.C.; Thomas W. Allen Jr., Creedmoor, N.C., and alternate Robert J. Bowers, Sanford, N.C.; Bobby R. Gentry, Roaring River, N.C., and alternate Joseph W. Hobson, Boonville, N.C.; John S. Harper Jr., Snow Hill, N.C., and alternate Jethro C. Stanley Jr., Carthage, N.C.; Earl Bullard, Bladenboro, N.C., and alternate James R. Hobson, Boonville, N.C.; Jordan M. Jenkins Jr., Blackstone, Va., and alternate Andrew L. Barker, Axton, Va.;

Richard M. Inge, Chase City, Va, and alternate Maxie F. Moore, Dundas, Va.; Lawton V. Matthews, Moultrie, Ga., and alternate Robert B. Braswell, Ochlocknee, Ga.; Rodney T. Stanley Jr., Lyons, Ga., and alternate Gary L. Walker, TyTy, Ga; John A. Wiggins, Marion, S.C., and alternate Floyd C. Worley, Nichols, Ga; Raymond L. Galloway Jr., Darlington, S.C., and alternate Norwood L. Durant Jr., Alcolu, S.C.;



Lonzo Israel, Nichols, S.C., and alternate Rogers L. Hammond, Nichols, S.C.; Dennie K. Parrish, Benson, N.C., and alternate Sidney L. Davenport, Greenville, N.C.; Ernest R. Terry, Madison, Fla., and alternate Waldo S. Kennedy, Jasper, Fla.

Warehouse members and their alternates are: Charles E. Ford Jr., Louisburg, N.C., and alternate Daniel T. Currin Jr., Oxford, N.C.; Melvin E. Parker, Smithfield, N.C., and alternate Joseph L. Boyett, Blackshear, Ga.; Albert D. Gray III, Whiteville, N.C., and alternate Alvin D. Lewis III, Fairmont, N.C.; Robert B. Battle, Nichols, S.C., and alternate E.P. Roberts, Conway, S.C.; Harry G. Lea, Danville, Va., and alternate George W. Ward, Providence, N.C.; Namon L. Daughtry, Smithfield, N.C., and alternate Everett O. Adams Jr., Garner, N.C.; Roger W. Davis, Lake City, Fl., and alternate Norman P. Swain, Greenville, N.C.; Henry G. Knott Jr., Kinston, N.C., and alternate John F. Deans, Wilson, N.C.; Harold Y. Hodges Sr., Mount Airy, N.C., and alternate Thomas M. Ward, Buffalo Junction, Va.; George W. Abbott, Darlington, S.C., and alternate Billy K. Phillips, Lynchburg, S.C.

Purchaser members and their alternates are: William P. Dalton, Oxford, N.C., and alternate William C. Lacy, Richmond, Va.; Jerry A. Winstead, Roxboro, N.C., and alternate Douglas E. Knott, Fuquay-Varina, N.C.; Randolph F. Harrison, Wilson, N.C., and alternate Richard G. Collins Jr., Wilson, N.C.; Foster McG. Lynch III, Coward, S.C., and alternate Alfred F. Rehm Jr., Wilson, N.C.; Glenn A. Inman, Greeneville, Tenn., and alternate Alfred A.G. Corbett, Farmville, N.C.; Kenneth B. Lyell, Midlothian, Va., and alternate Woodrow W. Vaughn, Jr., Richmond, Va.; James R. Venable Jr., Greensboro, N.C., and alternate Richard M. Winn Jr., Clemmons, N.C.; Benjamin P. Horsley, Dry Fork, Va., and alternate James T. Watkins, Greensboro, N.C..

Those who were reappointed to the Flue-Cured Tobacco Advisory Committee are: Trudy B. Early, Gene B. Lanier, Thomas W. Allen Jr., Earl Bullard, Jordan M. Jenkins Jr., Richard M. Inge, Lawton V. Matthews, Rodney T. Stanley Jr., John A. Wiggins, Ernest R. Terry, Charles E. Ford Jr., Albert D. Gray III, Harry G. Lea, Namon L. Daughtry, Henry G. Knott Jr., Harold Y. Hodges Sr., William P. Dalton, Jerry A. Winstead, Randolph F. Harrison, Foster McG. Lynch III, Kenneth B. Lyell and James R. Venable Jr. Appointees may serve a maximum of three terms as members or alternates.

Clarence Steinberg (202) 447-8998

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## **USDA INCREASES FEE FOR GRADING IMPORTED TOBACCO**

WASHINGTON, June 11—The U.S. Department of Agriculture will increase the fee for grading imported tobacco from 40 to 45 cents per hundred pounds, effective Aug. 1.

Daniel D. Haley, administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said the increase of five cents per hundred pounds would cover increases since October 1989 in salaries, personnel benefits and administrative costs. The salary and benefits increases are congressionally mandated.

Except for oriental and cigar leaf, all imported tobacco must be graded, with grading fees paid for by tobacco importers, Haley said. Standards used in grading imported and domestic tobaccos are the same, he said. Authority for the program rests in the Tobacco Adjustment Act of 1983. AMS administers the program.

Notice of the increase will be published as a final rule in the June 12 Federal Register. Copies are available from the Director, Tobacco Division, AMS, USDA, Rm. 502 Annex, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456; telephone (202) 447-2567.

Clarence Steinberg (202) 447-6179

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## **USDA EXTENDS COMMENT PERIOD ON FARM ANIMALS IN NONAGRICULTURAL RESEARCH**

WASHINGTON, June 11—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has extended the comment period for its advance notice of proposed rulemaking for the humane care of horses when used in nonagricultural research and other farm animals used in nonagricultural research or nonagricultural exhibition. The advance notice was published in the April 5 Federal Register.

"This extension will allow commenters sufficient time to examine the current standards of practice and to comment fully on the advance notice of proposed rulemaking," said James W. Glosser, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, which administers the Animal Welfare Act.

The Animal Welfare Act authorizes the secretary of agriculture to oversee the humane handling, housing, care, treatment and transportation



of warm-blooded animals used for research, testing or exhibition or sold wholesale as pets.

The new proposal would establish standards designed specifically for the humane care of horses used for biomedical or other nonagricultural research, and for the humane care of other farm animals used for biomedical or other nonagricultural research, or for nonagricultural exhibition.

Glosser said until standards are designed specifically for farm animals in these situations, USDA intends to regulate them in accordance with existing general regulations for warm-blooded animals.

Comments will be accepted if they are received on or before July 12. An original and three copies of written comments referring to docket number 90-006 should be sent to Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, USDA, Room 866, Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md., 20782.

Comments may be inspected at USDA, Rm. 1141-S, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

The announcement of this extension will appear in the June 12 Federal Register.

Sibyl Bowie (301) 436-7799

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## **U.S. AND CANADA AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS DISCUSS TRADE CONCERNS**

CALGARY, June 11—U.S. Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter and Canadian Agriculture Minister Don Mazankowski met today to discuss multilateral and bilateral agriculture issues. The meeting is one of the twice yearly consultations between the United States and Canada on agriculture issues, provided for under the U.S. - Canada Free Trade Agreement.

During the meeting, the minister and the secretary discussed the importance of the current round of multilateral trade negotiations (MTN) and the need to accelerate the pace of negotiations in order to have a framework agreement for the July meeting of the MTN Trade Negotiating Committee. "Yeutter and I agreed on the need for significant progress in agricultural negotiations of the Uruguay Round," Mazankowski said.



“We reaffirmed our commitment to substantial, progressive reductions in trade distorting internal policies and practices; improved market access; and the elimination of export subsidies. We also reiterated the importance of establishing clear rules on sanitary and phytosanitary issues based on sound scientific principles. We agreed that through the establishment of GATT rules tied equally to all participants, the objective of the agricultural negotiations to establish a fair market-oriented agricultural trading system can be fulfilled,” said Yeutter and Mazankowski.

“I am looking forward to continuing these multilateral discussions at the next Quint Ministers meeting where we will meet our partners from Canada, the European Community, Japan and Australia,” said Yeutter. The next Quint Ministers meeting will be held at the end of July in Ireland.

The U.S. Farm Bill and Canada’s national agri-food policy review were among the bilateral issues Yeutter and Mazankowski discussed during the Calgary meeting.

Both Yeutter and Mazankowski also stressed the importance of implementing the U.S.-Canada border meat inspection agreement as soon as possible.

“These meetings are a valuable forum to raise and discuss areas of mutual interest. Since the U.S. and Canada are each other’s best customers, these joint discussions enable us to reinforce our positive trading relationship,” said Yeutter and Mazankowski.

Kelly Shipp (202) 447-4623

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## **USDA SETTLES THREE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH COMPLIANCE CASES**

WASHINGTON, June 12—The U.S. Department of Agriculture settled three cases during April to enforce federal animal and plant health laws and regulations.

USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is responsible for a variety of programs to prevent, control or eradicate pests and diseases of plants and animals. In enforcing the regulations to accomplish this mission, legal action is generally taken against violators only after repeated efforts to secure compliance are unsuccessful, according to James W. Glosser, administrator of APHIS.

The latest monthly figures show that individuals and businesses who violated the regulations were fined a total of \$7,000. Also, port inspectors collected \$55,740 in civil penalties from 1,645 international travelers caught smuggling potentially hazardous agricultural products into the country and \$3,850 from 25 businesses or shipping companies that mishandled or improperly disposed of regulated garbage.

USDA enforces its regulations primarily through administrative charges, many of which are resolved through consent orders, levying specified penalties. Alternatively, an administrative law judge hears the case and renders a decision. Either USDA or the respondent may appeal the administrative law judge's decision to the USDA's judicial officer. The respondent only may appeal an adverse decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals.

The following actions were settled in April:

**IMPORT/EXPORT REGULATIONS**—Import restrictions cover most farm animals and many plant materials and are aimed at preventing the introduction of serious foreign animal or plant diseases and pests that do not exist in this country. USDA certifies export shipments to assure that only healthy animals and plant materials reach foreign markets.

—Walter E. Diaz of Eagle Pass, Texas, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty by an administrative law judge following a Feb. 6, hearing on charges that he violated federal animal quarantine laws. Diaz has 30 days from service of the decision to appeal it to the judicial officer. USDA charged that on May 10, 1988, Diaz bypassed agricultural inspection at the port of entry between the United States and Mexico at Eagle Pass, Texas. He moved a trailer contaminated with manure through an inspection area without having the vehicle cleaned and disinfected and before receiving final release from governmental detention. Immediately, the local police at Eagle Pass were contacted and the vehicle was detained and later escorted back to the port of entry.

**INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF LIVESTOCK**—Certain livestock moving across state lines must be identified and accompanied by health certificates and permits, depending on the species, age, sex, health status and origin of the animals. A number of livestock diseases, such as brucellosis and tuberculosis, are being eradicated under cooperative state-federal programs; however, these diseases could spread rapidly if dealers and producers fail to follow shipping rules.

—Southeastern Livestock Company, a partnership operating in Meridian, Miss., agreed to pay a \$2,500 civil penalty without admitting



or denying USDA charges that it violated federal cattle shipping regulations. USDA alleged that on four occasions between Feb. 26 and March 8, 1986, the company moved approximately 17 cows interstate from either Delhi, La., to Meridian, Miss., or from Meridian, Miss., to Tyler, Texas, without an accompanying certificate and entry permit and other than directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment or quarantine feedlot as required.

—Darrell Wessels of Little Cedar, Iowa, agreed to pay a \$3,500 civil penalty to settle USDA charges that he violated federal regulations for moving animals interstate. USDA alleged that on 19 occasions between Sept. 26 and Dec. 18, 1986, Wessels moved approximately 2,083 swine from Little Cedar, Iowa, to various locations in Albert Lea, Adams, St. James and Alden or Glenville, Minn., without an accompanying certificate to indicate the animals' health status.

Questa Glenn (301) 436-6464

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## USDA DECIDES TWO ANIMAL WELFARE ACT COMPLIANCE CASES

WASHINGTON, June 12—The U.S. Department of Agriculture settled two cases during April to enforce the humane care and treatment of animals regulated under the Animal Welfare Act.

James W. Glosser, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said the cases resulted from earlier charges. Details are:

—Jan Hunholz, an unlicensed dog dealer in Windsor, Mo., was ordered by an administrative law judge not to engage in any business operations that involve animals covered by the Animal Welfare Act, to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty and to cease and desist from operating a dog kennel without a federal license. USDA alleged that during the period between August 1985 and July 1986, despite notification that she could not operate her kennel without a license, Hunholz sold at least 150 dogs to a neighboring licensed facility in Missouri.

—Grace M. Singleton, doing business as Ray Singleton and Co., in Riverview, Fla., entered into a consent decision to resolve USDA charges that she failed to operate her animal dealership in compliance with the required standards of the Animal Welfare Act. The decision includes a



cease-and-desist order and prohibits Singleton from obtaining a license under the act for a period of 10 years. Although she currently does not hold a federal animal dealer's license, USDA charged that while Singleton was licensed in 1988, she failed to provide adequate veterinary care for her animals, establish an adequate pest control program, maintain appropriate records of animal transactions, keep housing clean and in good repair, provide her animals sufficient protection from inclement weather and properly store their food supplies.

Standards for the care and treatment of certain animals have been required by the Animal Welfare Act since 1966. Animals protected by the law must be provided adequate housing, handling, sanitation, food, water, transportation, veterinary care and protection against extremes of weather and temperature. The law covers animals that are sold as pets at the wholesale level or for biomedical research or for exhibition purposes.

USDA enforces the act primarily through administrative prosecutions. Many of these cases are resolved through the consent decision provisions of the regulations. Under these provisions, USDA and the respondent named in the complaint agree to a stipulated order and penalties. If the case is not settled, there is a hearing before an administrative law judge who issues a decision. Any party may appeal the administrative law judge's decision to the USDA's judicial officer. The respondent may appeal an adverse decision by the judicial officer to the U.S. Court of Appeals. Failure to respond to the charges in the complaint results in the issuance of a default order assessing penalties.

Dealers, breeders, brokers, transportation companies, exhibitors and research facilities must be licensed or registered. USDA personnel make periodic, unannounced inspections to help assure compliance. Action is taken against violators after efforts to secure compliance are unsuccessful, Glosser said.

Questa Glenn (301) 436-7799

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## FIVE SCIENTISTS INDUCTED INTO ARS SCIENCE HALL OF FAME

WASHINGTON, June 12—Five scientists were inducted today into the science Hall of Fame of the Agricultural Research Service, the chief scientific agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

“These scientists have been selected for this honor because each one has significantly contributed to the solution of a major agricultural problem,” said ARS administrator R. Dean Plowman. “Their records of achievement are worthy of being emulated by younger agricultural scientists.”

The honorees are Theodore C. Byerly (deceased), biologist; Gordon E. Dickerson, geneticist; Robert W. Holley, a Nobel prize winning chemist; Virgil A. Johnson, wheat researcher; and George F. Sprague, corn researcher.

A plaque citing the achievements of each scientist will be on permanent display in the ARS National Visitors Center at the Beltsville, Md., Agricultural Research Center, Plowman said.

To be eligible for the Hall of Fame, ARS scientists must either be retired or eligible to retire and be recognized for excellence by national and international colleagues in the scientific community.

\* Retired biologist Theodore C. Byerly, who died May 17, investigated how nutrition, genetics and the environment affect the hatching of chicken eggs. His findings helped raise the hatching rate from 65 to 85 percent. That increase has saved the poultry industry more than \$60 million each year in what would have been lost production. Byerly produced many major advances in poultry science including developing the Beltsville white turkey, a widely popular small turkey that was quickly adopted by the industry. He also made basic discoveries about vitamin B12, which is essential to the survival of newly hatched chicks.

His studies were based at the Beltsville center until 1963 when he left ARS for a series of high-level administrative posts in USDA.

\* Retired geneticist Gordon E. Dickerson was responsible for developing major concepts and methods to genetically improve productivity in cattle, sheep, swine and poultry. Using imaginative approaches extending statistical and genetic theory to selecting breeding patterns, he pioneered ways of weighting various factors in order to achieve maximum genetic improvement. Dickerson's lifelong emphasis on net efficiency of animal production also led him to design computer



simulations of livestock production systems to evaluate possible effects of alternative breeding and production strategies. Before retiring in 1987, Dickerson worked at the Roman L. Hruska Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center, Neb.

\* Chemist Robert W. Holley, who won the 1968 Nobel Prize in physiology and medicine, discovered the class of ribonucleic acids now known as transfer RNA, one of the essential components in the body's instruction system for protein production.

In his work on regulation of cell division, Holley also isolated a unique growth regulator that acts as both a growth stimulant and inhibitor. Improved understanding of such growth regulators is crucial to ultimately being able to regulate uncontrolled reproduction of cells in conditions such as cancer.

Holley's work for ARS was based at the Plant, Soil and Nutrition Laboratory in Ithaca, N.Y. He is currently with the Salk Institute in San Diego.

\* Wheat researcher Virgil A. Johnson co-developed 28 improved wheat varieties that have set new standards of productivity for hard red winter wheat. Varieties that he worked on have, at times, occupied as much as 25 percent of the entire U.S. wheat acreage and since 1960 have resulted in an increase in farmer income of \$100 million a year.

In 1969, Johnson recognized that, in many parts of the world, wheat to be consumed locally must be able to be grown locally. To help evaluate improved wheat germplasm at local sites, he established the International Winter Wheat Performance Nursery Network. Today, there are 60 such sites in all 34 of the major winter wheat producing countries.

Before retiring from ARS in 1986, he worked at the Wheat Research Unit in Lincoln, Neb.

\* Corn researcher George F. Sprague's integration of theoretical quantitative genetics and applied plant breeding led him to develop methods that have allowed the production of superior corn hybrids. His basic studies on gene actions expressed in breeding crosses resulted in two corn lines that are among the most widely used commercially today.

He has contributed six of the most important principles in modern plant breeding, including the idea that basic genetic information can be derived from properly designed breeding programs.



Before he retired from ARS in 1973, he was leader of the Corn and Sorghum Investigations Laboratory at the Beltsville Center.

Kim Kaplan (301) 344-3932

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## YOU'RE NEVER TOO OLD TO PUMP IRON

WASHINGTON, June 12—Three days a week, a small group of 90-year-olds donned exercise clothes, headed for the weight room in their nursing home and worked their thigh muscles close to the max.

The results of this pilot study show that frail elderly people can dramatically increase their leg strength and improve their mobility through a high-intensity weight training program—without overstressing the cardiovascular system, Maria A. Fiatarone reports in tomorrow's issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

She is a physician in Boston with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts and the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for Aged, a 725-bed teaching nursing home affiliated with Harvard Medical School, where the volunteers lived and worked out. They were 87 to 96 years old.

In just eight weeks of knee extension exercises, the six women and three men increased the strength of their quadriceps three-to-fourfold on average. And while their normal walking speed didn't change significantly as a group, their speed in a heel-to-toe walking test increased nearly 50 percent, said Fiatarone.

According to 92-year-old Dorothy Tishler, "She got me walking faster than my (70-year-old) daughter."

Two other volunteers who previously used canes began walking without them and one of three volunteers became able to rise from a chair without pushing off the arms, said Fiatarone. The five who used walkers, however, continued to rely on them after the study. Tishler uses a walker to safeguard against falling, but confessed, "Many times, I don't take it."

She and other volunteers still work out once a week to maintain their gains in strength and mobility. "I look forward to going down to exercise," she said.

If the exercise stops, the gains disappear quickly, the study found. Just four weeks after the volunteers returned to their sedentary life style, they lost an average 32 percent in muscle strength.

The study was funded partly by USDA's Agricultural Research Service and grants from the U.S. Public Health Service, The Medical Foundation and Farnsworth Trust, Ross Laboratories and the rehabilitation center itself.

The volunteers had the typical ailments of aging people, said Fiatarone, including osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, coronary artery disease and hypertension. Most of them had a history of falls.

"In light of their very advanced age, extremely sedentary habits, multiple chronic diseases and functional disabilities," she said, "their response to strength training is remarkable."

She undertook the study to see if strength training could help prevent falls in the very old and improve their ability to get around on their own.

"Muscle weakness has been linked to recurrent falls in the frail elderly," she said. But health-care professionals have been reluctant to try strength training for fear of overtaxing an already compromised cardiovascular system.

That didn't happen in this study. "Blood pressure and pulse varied little during the training sessions," she said, even though the volunteers lifted 80 percent of their maximum throughout the study with no more than two-minutes rest between sets.

"It wasn't too much of a strain," said Tishler. "It never hurt."

Because of the promising results, Fiatarone is now in the midst of a similar study with 100 volunteers from the rehabilitation center. In the current study, she is collecting more data, particularly on the nutritional, functional and mental status of the volunteers.

Judy McBride (301) 344-4095

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## **USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET RICE PRICES**

WASHINGTON, June 12—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced the prevailing world market prices of milled rice, loan rate basis, as follows:

- long grain whole kernels, 8.45 cents per pound;
- medium grain whole kernels, 7.58 cents per pound;
- short grain whole kernels, 7.52 cents per pound;
- broken kernels, 4.22 cents per pound.

Based upon these prevailing world market prices for milled rice, rough rice world prices are estimated to be:

- long grain, \$5.31 per hundredweight;
- medium grain, \$4.88 per hundredweight;
- short grain, \$4.86 per hundredweight.

The prices announced are effective today at 3 p.m. EDT. The next scheduled price announcement will be made June 19 at 3 p.m. EDT, although prices may be announced sooner if warranted.

Gene Rosera (202) 447-7923

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## **USDA GIVES PERMIT FOR GENETICALLY ENGINEERED RICE TRIALS IN LOUISIANA**

WASHINGTON, June 12—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has granted a permit to Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge to conduct field trials of genetically engineered rice. It is the first field test of genetically engineered rice in the United States and the first such permit given to LSU.

The rice being tested contains genetic sequences called transposons, or movable elements, taken from corn. Transposons allow researchers to map more exactly the location of genes on the chromosomes that code for botanic and agronomic characters such as plant height, yield, disease resistance or protein make-up of the grain. Once the gene location is identified, researchers can manipulate them and eventually introduce them into new rice varieties and other crops as well.

“After reviewing this experiment, we are convinced that researchers have designed it carefully and in accordance with our permit



procedures,” said James W. Glosser, administrator of USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. “They have built in precautions that prevent the spread of plants or pollen from the designated test site.”

The tests will begin in June in Crowley, La., and continue through the summer.

Rice is the second most important crop economically in Louisiana, according to Norimoto Murai of LSU’s Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology, chief researcher of the project. By inserting the transposons into the rice, Murai hopes to give researchers a tool to better understand the basic biology of the crop.

Murai and his coworkers have already examined the experimental rice plants in the greenhouse and wish to repeat the studies under field conditions. “We will be monitoring the plants to see if the genetic manipulations have affected agronomic characteristics such as fertility, plant height, grain weight and maturity,” said Murai.

Copies of the environmental assessment and the finding of no significant impact may be obtained by writing to Clayton Givens, USDA, APHIS, BBEP, Room 843A, Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md., 20782.

Amichai Heppner (301) 436-5931

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## **USDA APPROVES MULTISITE FIELD TESTS OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED SOYBEANS**

WASHINGTON, June 12—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued a permit to Monsanto Agricultural Company of St. Louis, Mo., allowing field tests of genetically engineered soybeans this summer in 11 Eastern and Midwestern states.

Monsanto scientists are testing the transgenic soybeans for tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate—also known by the trade name of Roundup, according to James W. Glosser, administrator of USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

“APHIS evaluations show that the methods to be used in these trials have no significant environmental impact,” he said. “The experimental soybeans will be contained within the test site and will not be allowed to pollinate any surrounding plants.”

Test sites will be located in Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Tennessee and Virginia. The number of test sites involved is the largest ever used in a transgenic field test permitted by USDA. Testing on this scope will allow scientists to gauge the plants' performance across a broad spectrum of climatic and agronomic conditions.

Most herbicides control either grasses or broad-leaved weeds, but glyphosate controls both, making it a so-called nonselective herbicide. The tests will compare the performance of the nonselective herbicide with a combination of different herbicide mixtures.

Results can help determine if the nonselective herbicide provides farmers with better weed control using less overall herbicide volume. If so, the reduced use of herbicide would save money and be gentler on the environment. The impact would be considerable because soybeans are a major crop, worth approximately \$12 billion a year to U.S. agriculture.

Monsanto scientists first conducted field tests of transgenic herbicide-resistant soybeans in May of last year. They engineered the new trait by identifying a gene for herbicide tolerance in petunias and transferring the gene to soybeans.

Copies of the environmental assessment prepared by APHIS are available from Linda Gordon, USDA, APHIS, BBEP, Room 843A, Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782; telephone (301) 436-5961.

Amichai Heppner (301) 436-5222

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## USDA ANNOUNCES FINAL RULE IN SHILOT INSPECTION

WASHINGTON, June 12—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Federal Grain Inspection Service today announced significant revisions in its shiplot inspection plan, the program under which FGIS inspects shiplot, unit train, and lash barge grain to determine if it meets contract quality specifications.

The revisions are based on a study initiated in 1985 of FGIS' cumulative summation (Cu-Sum) statistical method of determining the quality of grain shipments.

FGIS proposed changes in the Cu-Sum plan on Jan. 23, 1989. FGIS Administrator John C. Foltz reported that 69 comments were received on



that proposal. Foltz said that after consideration of the comments, final rule changes to the regulations include:

- Establishing new breakpoint values based on updated estimates of standard deviation.
- Designating a material portion as the single subplot exceeding the breakpoint value.
- Requiring that review inspection results of material portions be averaged with prior results, unless a material error is detected.
- Limiting review inspections of material portions to one field review.
- Defining a material error as a difference of more than two standard deviations.
- Offering, upon request, an optional inspection service whereby component samples are analyzed.

In addition to the above changes, the final rule includes wheat protein under the shiplot inspection plan for shipments specifying a minimum or maximum amount of protein and requires a special certification statement when the protein range of a lot exceeds 1.0 percentage point.

The final rule will appear in the June 13 Federal Register. The revised Cu-Sum Plan will go into effect Sept. 11.

For further information contact Paul Marsden, Resources Management Division, Federal Grain Inspection Service, Room 0628-S, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; telephone (202) 475-3428.

Allen A. Atwood (202) 475-3367

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## **USDA RESEARCH AGENCY GIVES AWARDS FOR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**

WASHINGTON, June 13—Federal researchers who drew industry interest to irrigation technology that conserves water and to an African plant that can be made into newsprint today received awards from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's principal science agency.

The Technology Transfer Awards, an annual program of USDA's Agricultural Research Service, went to hydraulic engineer John A. Replogle and chemist Marvin O. Bagby, both of ARS, and agricultural economist Daniel E. Kugler of USDA's Cooperative State Research Service.



They and other researchers were presented awards by ARS administrator R. Dean Plowman in a ceremony at the agency's U.S. National Arboretum here.

"Research that begins in the laboratory and ends with farmers, industry and consumers benefits us all," Plowman said. "That's why we feel a special pride in recognizing the continuing outstanding efforts of our scientists."

As recipients of the top awards for transferring new technology to industry, Replogle received a cash award of \$2,500 and Bagby and Kugler each received \$1,250. Replogle works at the ARS U.S. Water Conservation Laboratory in Phoenix, Ariz., and Bagby is at the agency's Northern Regional Research Center in Peoria, Ill. Kugler works with CSRS in Washington.

Plowman said Replogle's work will improve the management of irrigated agriculture. By metering the flow of water over devices Replogle designed for irrigation canals, farmers will be better able to measure the correct volume of flow for their crops, he said.

Replogle's metering devices are more accurate, more economical to use and more adaptable to different flow locations than older devices that measure flow. His units are currently in use worldwide for measuring flow in open channels, including sewer lines.

Bagby and Kugler were recognized for their work with kenaf, a fast-growing annual that is made into newsprint. A native of east-central Africa, kenaf grows 15 to 18 feet in less than five months and can grow as high as 22 feet.

Research on kenaf spurred commercial interest that led to formation of The Kenaf Paper Company of Texas, a consortium that plans to erect a kenaf-based newsprint mill in south Texas this year, Plowman said. Once under full operation in 1991, the \$45 million plant is expected to employ 160 and process annually about 30,000 tons of newsprint from kenaf grown by area farmers.

Bagby led much of the agency research on kenaf, while Kugler was instrumental in attracting commercial interest in the plant.

Plowman also presented technology transfer cash awards to other ARS scientists and research teams:

\* Michael F. Kozempel, a chemical engineer at the Eastern Regional Research Center in Philadelphia, Pa., for developing and transferring to industry the ERRC Food Process Simulator, a computer program to help processors improve the efficiency of complex food processing operations.

\* Michael D. Ruff, research leader of the Protozoan Diseases Laboratory in Beltsville, Md., for technology transfer through cooperative ARS-industry research that provides a means for better control of avian coccidiosis, a disease that afflicts poultry.

\* Justin O. Schmidt and Steven C. Thoenes, of the Swarm Trap Technology Team at the Honey Bee and Insect Biological Control Research Unit in Tucson, Ariz., for developing an effective honey bee swarm trap for capturing bees to add to commercial apiaries, and for monitoring and possible control of Africanized bees.

\* Frank Scholnick, a chemist at the Hides, Leather and Wool Research Unit in Philadelphia, Pa., for developing and transferring technology to finish leather by radiation-curing rather than by conventional processes that use solvents.

\* Tyrone L. Vigo and Joseph S. Bruno, of the Polytherm Research Team at the Textile Finishing Chemistry Research Unit in New Orleans, La., for developing the process for binding polyols to help textile products adapt to temperature changes, resist wear and soiling, and have other functional properties.

Matt Bosisio (309) 685-4011

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## **USDA PROPOSES REVISING STANDARDS FOR DRIED WHEY**

WASHINGTON, June 13—The U.S. Department of Agriculture is proposing to allow salty whey—the moisture removed from cheese curd as a result of salting—to be covered by U.S. whey standards. The standards would apply to the whey after its salt has been removed.

Daniel D. Haley, administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said only whey originating as saltless is currently eligible for U.S. grading. That whey results from the initial coagulation of milk protein into cheese curd at the start of cheesemaking, and it is the major source of whey for processing.

The proponent of the revision, the American Dairy Products Institute, says extending the standards to whey resulting from salting the curd is appropriate because membrane technology using a process of osmosis can remove the salt from the whey economically.

At present, the salty whey, which represents a small fraction of the total amount of whey produced in cheesemaking, is discarded because it



is so salty, Haley said. The improved price of whey and increased whey disposal costs have made application of the process practical.

The proposal would authorize the AMS administrator to approve desalination methods of an applicant seeking USDA approval of the whey-handling facilities. Collection of this whey would have to meet certain sanitary requirements, Haley said.

Dried and condensed whey are significant sources of vitamins and protein in human nutrition, and are also used to some extent in animal feed, he said.

Comments, postmarked no later than Aug. 13, should be sent to the Director, Dairy Division, AMS, USDA, Rm. 2968-S, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456. Copies of the rule are available from that office, telephone (202) 447-4392.

Clarence Steinberg (202) 447-6179

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## **SCS PROVIDING STATES \$20 MILLION FOR EMERGENCY WATERSHED WORK**

WASHINGTON, June 13—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service is providing an initial \$20 million to help communities in the South clean up after extensive flood damages.

"We are working to help the most threatened areas first," said Wilson Scaling, chief of SCS. "We've gotten requests through our state offices and are allocating funds now."

SCS received \$60 million from Congress for watershed protection through the Dire Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Bill on May 25.

Emergency watershed protection work will be done in six states hit by flooding as a result of recent storms: Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. Funds will also be used for additional cleanup from Hurricane Hugo. Work will include establishing vegetative cover, gully control and streambank protection, removal of debris and sediment from channels, and emergency repair of existing dams and dikes.

"We want to give credit to local watershed sponsors for initiating and maintaining floodwater retarding structures," Scaling said. "They kept them in good shape and the dams met the test when the floods came."



“All of our watershed structures functioned as designed and had only minor damage. For example, 350 floodwater retarding structures in north central Texas held back rainfall from heavy storms.

“Our Texas office reports that good planning, design, construction and maintenance of dams in a four-county area provided \$3.6 million in public benefits from just one storm that brought 8 to 17 inches of rain over a 14-hour period.

“In Oklahoma, we estimate that watershed projects prevented another \$6 million in damages. About 600 watershed dams in the southeast and south central part of the state held back more than a half million acre-feet of water—more than 160 billion gallons,” Scaling said.

In Oklahoma, 325 of the 600 watershed dams in the storm area had flows through their emergency spillway.

The nation’s first completed watershed project, Sandstone Creek in western Oklahoma, was among those projects where the floodwater retarding structures performed well.

The Soil Conservation Service helps communities develop watershed projects to reduce erosion, siltation, and flooding as well as for other purposes. Most of these watershed projects are built under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954, Public Law 83-566.

Diana Morse (202) 447-4772

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## **TEXAS FIRM RECALLS DELI-SLICED CHICKEN PRODUCT FROM THREE STATES**

WASHINGTON, June 13—Charlie’s Meat Products, an Amarillo, Texas, food processing firm, is voluntarily recalling approximately 36,000 pounds of “Charlie’s Country Smokehouse German Brand Breast of Chicken” from three Southwestern states because it may contain organisms that could cause foodborne illness, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture official.

The chicken roll is carried by ABCO and Safeway stores in Arizona, Homeland stores in Oklahoma, Kroger in Dallas/Ft. Worth, and Homeland and Tom Thumb stores in Texas. The chicken roll is sold to the stores in 7-1/2 lb. plastic packages. The establishment number “EST. 13301” appears in the USDA inspection seal on the label. The product is

shipped in 15 lb. cartons containing two packages. Consumers usually purchase this type of product sliced at the deli counter.

“Although no illnesses have been reported, we urge consumers who think they may have purchased Charlie’s Country Smokehouse German Brand Breast of Chicken to check with the store and return it if necessary,” said Dr. Ronald J. Prucha, associate administrator of USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service. None of the company’s other products are involved in the recall.

The problem was discovered by a USDA compliance officer who noticed a swollen package of the product on display at a supermarket deli counter in Cedar Hills, Texas. Fifty cases, subsequently examined in several stores and warehouses, all contained swollen product.

Consumers with questions about the recall may phone the toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-800-535-4555. The hotline can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. At other times a recording with information about the recall will be provided. Callers in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area should call 447-3333. Both phone numbers provide access to a telecommunications device for the deaf.

The Food Safety and Inspection Service inspects all meat and poultry sold in interstate commerce to ensure that it is safe, wholesome and accurately labeled.

Jim Greene (202) 382-0314

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## **TWO GEORGIA TOBACCO AUCTION MARKETS RE-ESTABLISHED FOR 1990**

WASHINGTON, June 13—The U.S. Department of Agriculture today “designated” (authorized as USDA-monitored) flue-cured tobacco auction markets in Fitzgerald and Metter, Ga., effective for the 1990 marketing season.

Daniel D. Haley, administrator of USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service, said the designation results from June 4-8 mail referendums of tobacco producers in the counties in which the markets are located and in their contiguous counties. “We are counting ballots, and to date over 80 percent of those voting in each referendum favor re-designating the markets, Haley said. The Tobacco Inspection Act of 1935 requires that

for a tobacco referendum to be effective, at least two-thirds of the eligible growers voting must favor it.

Haley said the referendums followed USDA hearings in Georgia last November on requests from warehouse operators and businessmen for the markets to be re-designated.

The Metter and Fitzgerald markets began operations in 1941 and 1946 respectively, but have not operated since 1984. Regulations under the Tobacco Inspection Act of 1935 require that an auction market not selling tobacco for over two years loses its USDA designation. To be re-designated, those in the area it served would have to petition the secretary of agriculture to do so, and USDA would have to conduct a hearing and a referendum to determine producer support for the market as if it were a new market seeking to be designated.

The act also requires that all tobacco sold at designated auction markets be USDA-inspected and graded.

Under federal law, flue-cured tobacco farmers must designate one or more auction warehouses at which to sell their crop in a given year. The tobacco farmers in the Fitzgerald and Metter areas say that recent increases in production quotas caused them to request the reopening of the markets in their areas, Haley said.

Detailed results of the referendums will appear in a future issue of the Federal Register.

Clarence Steinberg (202) 447-6179

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**THIS WEEK’S HONEY-LOAN REPAYMENT LEVELS  
UNCHANGED**

WASHINGTON, June 14—Producers may repay their 1989 honey price-support loans at the following levels, according to Keith D. Bjerke, executive vice president of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Commodity Credit Corporation:

**Weekly Honey-loan Repayment Levels, color and class, cents per pound, 1989 crop Table**

White .....	40.0
Extra-light Amber .....	37.0
Light Amber .....	36.0
Amber .....	35.0
Nontable.....	33.0

The weekly repayment level for 1990-crop honey is 38.0 cents per pound for all colors, table and nontable grades.

Levels are unchanged from those announced last week.

Producers who redeem their honey pledged as loan collateral by repaying their honey-price support loans at these levels may not repledge the same honey as collateral for another loan.

Jane K. Phillips (202) 447-7601 8:00 am-4:30 pm EST  
John C. Ryan (202) 447-8207 4:30 pm-5:30 pm EST

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